

## REVIEWS

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TUMORS OF THE NERVOUS ACUSTICUS AND THE SYNDROME OF THE CEREBELLOPONTILE ANGLE. By HARVEY CUSHING, M.D. Pp. 296; illustrated. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company.

THIS book represents a study of tumors of the acoustic nerve. Tumors in the cerebellopontile angle are by no means rare and have been frequently discussed, but this is the first time that tumors of the eighth nerve alone have been so clearly analyzed. The author has probably had a larger surgical experience in this line than anyone else, and of course is competent to speak of them. He begins by an historical review of the literature, the first case having been reported as early as 1830. Cushing has had altogether in his Baltimore and Boston clinics 784 cases of brain tumor, in which 468 have been verified either by operation or autopsy. Of these, 134 were lesions in the posterior fossa, 56 of which were extracerebellar, 30 of the latter arising from the eighth nerve. Then follows case reports of the verified 30 cases. In these the neurological, surgical and pathological data are well presented. Comments follow the presentation of each case.

In Chapter V, Cushing discusses the etiology and incidence of these tumors, and states that acoustic tumors apparently arise from embryonic tissue rests in the peripheral end of the nerve, and their growth may possibly be influenced by such elements as trauma, local infection or pregnancy. A very interesting fact is that the average age on admission of the verified cases was 23.2 years, and he points out that when cerebellar symptoms occur in the first two decades an intracerebellar tumor, more often a glioma, may be suspected. Then follows a discussion of the symptomatology. He summarizes these by stating that "it can be gathered that the symptomatic progress of the average acoustic tumor occurs more or less in the following stages: (1) the auditory and labyrinthine manifestations; (2) the occipitofrontal pains, with suboccipital discomforts; (3) the incoordination and instability of cerebellar origin; (4) the evidences of involvement of adjacent cerebral nerves; (5) the indications of an increase in intracranial tension, with a choked disk and its consequences; (6) dysarthria, dysphagia and finally cerebellar crises and respiratory difficulties."

The discussion of the symptomatology of the eighth nerve tumors is excellent, and where there is so much excellence it might perhaps

be inadvisable to criticise. Nevertheless, it might be well to point out that the discussion of the cerebellar symptoms is not up to date. There is mention of cerebellar ataxia, dysmetria and Babinski's cerebellar hemisynnergy, as if all these were distinctive cerebellar symptoms, whereas all of them are the result of asynergy. It would be well if the term ataxia were not used in association with cerebellar asynergy, for from the reviewer's view-point it should be limited only to such motor phenomena in which there is disturbance of sensation.

In discussing unusual symptoms in eighth nerve tumors, he quotes a number of instances in which pain occurred in the distribution of the fifth nerve, and on page 164 he mentions a case reported by the reviewer. He states: "I feel some doubt, moreover, as to the diagnosis, for one would have expected deafness had the lesion originated from the eighth nerve." As a matter of fact the tumor grew from the fifth nerve and there was no mention in the paper that it grew from the eighth.

The best part of the work of course is the surgical. In this Dr. Cushing's mastery has been acknowledged for years. The author gives his technic, which is well illustrated. There is on page 278 a table giving a chart of twenty-nine operative cases in the verified series. It shows the instance of the prolongation of life in the operative cases. The table shows that the case mortality has been 20.7; the operative mortality, based on a number of suboccipital operations, 39 in all, has been 15.4 per cent. These are excellent results, and illustrate better than anything else Dr. Cushing's superb operative ability.

T. H. W.

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NERVE WOUNDS; SYMPTOMATOLOGY OF PERIPHERAL NERVE LESIONS CAUSED BY WAR WOUNDS. By J. TINEL. Authorized translation by FRED. ROTHWELL, B.A. Pp. 307. New York: William Wood & Co.

THE European War, with all its horrors, has nevertheless been of great scientific value to medicine. Of the different branches of medicine there is none which is likely to gain more than neurology, because of the occurrence of a great number of focal lesions. Already a number of books and papers have appeared on shell shock and on various lesions of the nervous system.

Of discussions on the peripheral nerves the best that has appeared so far is that by Tinel, which is here reviewed. This book was published originally in French in 1917 and an excellent translation was immediately made by Rothwell, after which it was revised

and edited by Cecil A. Joll. The original has a preface by Dejerine, in whose clinic most of the work was done.

Altogether 639 cases were investigated. Of these 408 lesions occurred in the upper limb and 231 in the lower. Of the nerves of the upper limb the musculospiral was injured the most, next following the ulnar, median circumflex and musculocutaneous nerves in order, besides various combinations. Of the lower limbs the trunk of the sciatic nerve suffered most, then the external popliteal nerve, internal popliteal, posterior tibial, long saphenous, anterior crural and so on in order. In other words, practically every peripheral nerve, as well as every cranial nerve, has been injured in this war, and abundant opportunities were furnished the authors to study practically the injury of every nerve in the body.

The book begins with a general survey, the first chapter giving a study of nerve lesions produced in wounds, in which there are excellent illustrations of the various types of nerve sections, tearings, pseudoneuromata, compressions, etc. Then comes a study of the processes of degeneration and regeneration, neuromata, histological lesions caused by nerve wounds and a study of dissociated syndromes and partial lesions. Following this are the methods of clinical examination of a nerve. It is evident that of all of the clinical neurological studies there are none which need more painstaking research than the study of the peripheral nerves, and unless one is equipped by temperament to spend hours in the study of a case a peripheral nerve study had better not be made. Specially careful work must be done, as is shown by the illustrations of the sensory disturbances. It is interesting that only a mention is made of the protopathic, epicritic and deep sensibilities, and that Tinel states that of the ordinary cursory examinations made only the pin method is applied. No further mention is made of Head's work. The clinical types and syndromes are then discussed. The syndromes are those of interruption, compression, irritation and regeneration.

It is interesting that our own S. Weir Mitchell, who first described causalgia in the Civil War, is extensively quoted in this connection. Very unusual cases are cited, especially those of dissociated syndromes. There is an interesting chapter on ascending neuritis, and most interesting are the unusual contractures, brought about in slight lesions of peripheral nerves, a subject which is being developed in this war. Then comes the general diagnosis of peripheral nerve lesions and the specific treatments of the individual nerves, and finally their treatment.

In a word, this is an excellent presentation of peripheral nerve injuries, and shows that a great deal of work must have been done. The illustrations are excellent. No better praise can be given to this book than to say that it carries out the worthy traditions of the Charcot Clinic.

T. H. W.

**PHYSICAL REMEDIES FOR DISABLED SOLDIERS.** By R. FORTESCUE FOX, M.D., Honorary Medical Director of the Red Cross Clinic for Physical Treatment of Disabled Officers. With Chapters by Major R. TAIT MCKENZIE, R.A.M.C., FRANCIS HERMAN-JOHNSON, M.D., and JAMES B. MENNELL, M.A., M.D. Pp. 277; 88 illustrations. New York: William Wood & Co.

A book by so eminent authority as Dr. Fox cannot be other than valuable. The importance of his subject is extremely great and is one that is going to concern the profession in America more and more in the years to come. There will hardly be a community in the whole country that will not have to consider the care of disabled soldiers even long after the discharge from the army hospitals. The establishment of physical clinics will be imperative. Figures published in France show an average reduction in the mass of physical disability of 20 per cent. by properly organized physical clinics, and this has effected an automatic saving to the State in the charge of pensions of nearly two millions sterling per annum.

Dr. Fox's book is essentially a practical one and presents in a convenient form information which is useful in the treatment of soldiers and civilians by heat and cold, in baths, by electricity and radiation, by massage, mechanical apparatus, exercises and medical gymnastics. Major McKenzie's chapter on exercise, giving minute details as to graduation of effort, is especially good. A chapter on the administration of massage, by Dr. Mennell, though short, covers well the indications and results of such treatment in-addition to the administration. And Dr. Herman-Johnson, writing on the use of electricity and radiation, describes the advantages and limitations of such aids. Unfortunately the scheme of the book necessitates repetition of text that ought to have been avoided. The many illustrations throughout the volume add materially to its value as a practical guide.

C. N. S.

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**THE MEDICAL CLINICS OF NORTH AMERICA.** Boston Number, January, 1918. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company.

IT is but necessary to recount the contributors to this volume to prove its interest. From the clinic of Dr. H. A. Christian appears a review of some interesting heart conditions. Dr. Elliott P. Joslin gives a masterly discussion of two cases of severe diabetes. Dr. W. P. Graves writes of his personal views and experiences regarding ovarian organotherapy, referring in detail to indications for the several preparations on the market. From the clinic of Dr. Fritz B. Talbot is a presentation of cases of eczema in childhood, with a

clear-cut discussion of etiological factors. Dr. Harry A. Barnes gives a careful review of Vincent's angina. Dr. John B. Hawes describes the early diagnosis of pulmonary tuberculosis. Dr. Andrew Watson Sellards discusses amebic dysentery and associated conditions. Dr. John Lovett Morse refers to empyema in children, but unfortunately the subject does not permit of much more than a review of long-established facts and gives little opportunity for careful analysis which the author is so capable of making. The same might be said of Dr. Richard M. Smith's discussion of pyelitis in infancy, which, however, is well written and also has the virtue of being to the point.

These and many more make this number of the *Medical Clinics* of universal interest and do credit to the men of Boston.

C. N. S.

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LECTURES ON MEDICINE. A HAND-BOOK FOR NURSES. By CHALMERS WATSON, M.D., F.R.C.P.E., Lecturer on Clinical Medicine, Edinburgh University. Pp. 295. New York: William Wood & Co.

THIS is a valuable book on general medicine for nurses, and would serve as an excellent guide for any lecturer to nurses. Its language is not too technical, yet the subjects are covered fully, particularly from the stand-point of nursing care. Answering those critics who may think that the lectures go to some extent beyond the requirements of a nurse, the author states as his opinion that the efficiency of a nurse bears a direct ratio to the knowledge she possesses of the nature of the disease of her patient and to the principles guiding the physician in its treatment.

One of the most useful chapters is the last, which describes in detail the principles of diet. Many unusual and extremely useful recipes are given, which are appetizing even in their written form.

C. N. S.

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BURNS AND THEIR TREATMENT, INCLUDING DERMATITIS FROM HIGH EXPLOSIVES. By J. M. MACLEOD, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P., Physician for Diseases of the Skin, Charing Cross Hospital, Royal Flying Corps Hospitals.

EVERY now and then there appears a book that is truly worthwhile. Such is this handy little volume on burns. The author in the hospitals of the Royal Flying Corps and in the skin department of Charing Cross had a rich field of material upon which to base conclusions. He takes up in well-chosen detail the classification of

burns, the treatment including that of regional burns and the prevention of complications.

There are chapters on burns from electricity; from lightning; from roentgen rays; from radium and from corrosives. The final chapter describes the various forms of dermatitis and internal symptoms due to the handling of high explosives. It is exceedingly interesting.

C. N. S.

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**MINOR MALADIES AND THEIR TREATMENT.** By LEONARD WILLIAMS, M.D., Physician to the French Hospital. Fourth edition. New York: William Wood & Co.

To physicians in search for the written experiences of others in the treatment of minor maladies this book will be welcome. It is refreshing in its empiricism, admittedly egotistical and with no uncertainty of diction. It gives the treatment and formulae that have given the author results in the relief of the symptoms of that great group of a practitioner's patients, namely, those suffering from minor maladies.

There are chapters on colds and coughs, on indigestion, on constipation, diarrhea, vomiting and giddiness, on rheumatism, neuralgia and headache, on goutiness and a very interesting chapter on minor glandular insufficiencies. The author feels that though the microbe—the seed—has ruled the past, the future is with the soil, the endocrine glands.

The book does not permit of much criticism, or rather it admits of so much criticism in its empiricism that it forestalls all criticism. It is, however, well worth while, and the fact that this is the fourth edition proves that it has been a help to many.

C. N. S.

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**PHYSIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY.** By C. J. V. PITTIBONE, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Physiological Chemistry, Medical School, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. Pp. 328. St. Louis: C. V. Mosby Company.

THE book is essentially elementary in character, and, as the author points out, his aim was to cover the general field of physiological chemistry in such a way as to make students familiar with compounds that are important from a biochemical view-point and with the fundamental processes which go on in the animal body.

Necessarily, therefore, the student is referred to other standard texts for more detailed information. For those who have no need of going deep into the study of the subject this book will be found

about as suitable as could be desired. The first part deals with the theory, while the second part describes the laboratory work. An appendix gives directions for making up quantitative and special reagents.

H. D.

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SURGICAL CLINICS OF CHICAGO, DECEMBER, 1917. Vol. I, No. 6;  
Pp. 220; 89 illustrations. Philadelphia and London: W. B.  
Saunders Company.

THIS number maintains the reputation of this very worthy publication. One is impressed by the selection of cases as well as by the names of those presenting them. They vary widely but maintain throughout the interest of the reader, sometimes because of their importance and infrequency, sometimes because of their importance and frequency, and are of special interest to those surgeons who have not the privilege of the abundant material each contributor to this number possesses. For example, Lewis discusses separation of the epiphysis and T-fractures of the lower end of the femur, myositis ossificans and (with a special discussion on blastomycosis by that authority on the subject, Montgomery) blastomycosis and sporotrichosis. Of special interest are the reports on cancer of the rectum presented by Oehsner, Davis and Bevan. Fourteen surgeons contribute, some on several conditions and all clearly, interestingly and briefly.

T. T. T.

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INJURIES OF THE FACE AND JAW. By P. MARTINIER, Professor to the Dental School of Paris, and G. LEMERLE, Professor to the Dental School of Paris. Translated by H. LAWSON WHALE, Captain, No. 83, General Hospital, B. E. F. Pp. 345; 168 illustrations. New York: William Wood & Co.

It is fitting that special attention be given in these days to the repair of injuries of the face and their resulting deformities. The same interest could not have been aroused in surgeons before the war, but most of those now entering the country's service turn to authoritative special treatises on this subject because of their previous unavoidable lack of experience and training. The average physician and surgeon will be first impressed by the amount of work which had been done along these lines even before this war, in which trench-fighting has produced so many and such frightful face injuries. The best work has been done and chief advances have been made by the dental surgeons, who are therefore best qualified to give instruction. This small volume gives most attention to prosthesis or the art of making artificial substitutes for an organ cut off,

two-thirds of it being devoted to this branch of the subject. Although not intended as a technical treatise the methods of treatment and devices which have gained most recognition are explained and largely illustrated. These include the various artificial substitutes for the jaws, larynx, tongue, nose, ears and lips; those which remain exposed to the air and those which remain buried in the tissues. Special chapters are given to fractures of the lower jaw and of the upper jaw, in which is emphasized especially the insufficiency of bandages and slings alone and the value of Cl. Martin's methods of reduction, with troughs sealed by cement, to immobilize when reduction has been accomplished. T. T. T.

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RECOLLECTIONS OF A NEW YORK SURGEON. By ARPAD G. GERSTER, M.D. Pp. 347; 20 illustrations. New York: Paul B. Hoeber.

IN this volume of reminiscences the author follows the main incidents of his life from early childhood in Hungary to the time of his recent retirement from active professional life in New York City. He was born in the little city of Kassa, at the foot of the Carpathians, and he depicts graphically the domestic, educational and political environment in which his first years were passed. Later he studied medicine in Vienna in 1866 to 1872 under Hyrtl and Bruecke, Rokitansky, Skoda and Billroth, when surgical mortality was still appalling. In February, 1873, he first saw a demonstration of the application of the new Listerian method of wound treatment. This was in Volkmann's Clinic at Halle, when the author was on his journey to the United States. First impressions of medical practice in Brooklyn and New York are interestingly described. The opinions he formed of medical students in 1874, and again years later when he took up new teaching duties at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1910, are of special interest. This volume of recollections of a busy life will appeal not only to the author's immediate friends and associates but also to a wider circle of readers. W. H. F. A.

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MEDICAL RESEARCH AND HUMAN WELFARE. By W. W. KEEN, M.D., Emeritus Professor of Surgery, Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia. Pp. 160. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin Company.

PERMEATED with the virile enthusiasm of the author, this little book gives us vivid glimpses of the great advances in medicine,

made within the memory of Dr. Keen, now in his fifty-eighth professional year. Interesting references to events occurring when he was a student in Paris or in Virchow's laboratory or to Civil War experiences serve to give one a personal relationship to the events described. The book represents the Colver Lectures of Brown University for 1917, delivered to a general university audience. This mode of presentation demanded a broad, not deep, treatment of the subject, but it has served only to make the book more widely readable and none the less stimulating. It should appeal especially to students of medicine.

W. H. F. A.

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INFECTION AND RESISTANCE. By HANS ZINSSER, Professor of Bacteriology, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University; Major, M. R. C., U. S. Army. Second edition. Pp. 585. New York: Macmillan & Co., 1918.

It was self-evident to those who were familiar with the first edition of Zinsser's *Infection and Resistance* that, with the rapid advancement in the field which it covered and from the excellence of the book itself, a second edition would soon be demanded. In its original form Zinsser's treatise was the first really successful attempt to group and correlate the large mass of important observations and theories that have been collected under the heading of immunology. Previous attempts in English were very inadequate and sketchy, and in no instance compiled by one who had an authoritative and first-hand knowledge of the subject. The extensive monographs in German and French on limited areas of the field, although bibliographically complete, were in most instances of less value from their bias in favor of one or another school of this new science with which their author happened to be identified. An admirable attempt had been made by Emery, some years ago, to give us an outline of the principles of immunity, but his work was rapidly outgrown by increasing knowledge and was also biased in favor of the opsonic school of Wright. There are now several handbooks and laboratory manuals of greater or less excellence in English, some of them elaborately illustrated and most of them accurate in the matter of the experimental details which are used by the laboratory worker in this field. It should be remarked, however, that the advanced worker in bacteriology, who in reality is the only one competent to undertake the practical application of the principles of immunity in diagnosis and therapy, is usually trained in the methods himself and has little need of detailed descriptions of technic, except as he consults them in original articles. It is difficult to see of what value elaborate descriptions of technic can

be to the practising physician who makes constant use of these methods, although he never himself does or should attempt to carry them out with his limited time and experience. What we have all needed, however, both the laboratory worker and the clinician, is a clear-headed, well-balanced discussion of the historical development and present status of the principles of infection and resistance. This is what Zinsser's book has furnished and continues to furnish us with unabated vigor and authority in the second edition. The author himself is an experienced and well-known worker in this field, a contributor as well as a lecturer and applier of the principles which he discusses. Zinsser's presentation of the facts is uniformly marked by a fairness even toward his opponents in those fields with which he is personally familiar. He is among the first in this country to have appreciated the importance of the contributions of the French school of immunity, particularly as exemplified by Bordet, and has never been carried away by the specious argumentation of Ehrlich, as have so many whose knowledge of this field is literary rather than experimental.

The second edition, although keeping in most parts the outline of the first, has benefited and made use of recent advances in the field of immunology. This is notably true in the chapters on anaphylaxis and in those dealing with the practical results of therapeutic immunization in man, where the most recent contributions have been fitted into their proper places and the general summary in each subject thereby to some extent revised. A section on immunity in syphilis has been added and the Abderhalden reaction has been relegated to its proper and less conspicuous place in the general system. The references throughout the book are plentiful and conveniently placed at the foot of the page, and sufficiently ample to lead one to the original sources of information if he so desires. It would be difficult to speak too highly of the scholarly method of this book, its background of first-hand knowledge and its suggestive value in matters of debate, or to overestimate its worth, both to the beginner and the more experienced worker, in this complex and rapidly growing field of medicine. It is a book that should be in the library of every practitioner as well as of every laboratory worker, and it is one which should not be allowed to gather dust on the shelves of him who ministers intelligently to the sick.

F. P. G.